(b) Central assistance under centrally sponsored Catalytic Development Programme for development of sericulture is available to all traditional and non-traditional States. The procedure and guidelines require interested States to send proposals to the Central Silk Board. Proposals that meet the guidelines are given due sanction to all States.

Textile Exports

2530. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of textile exports during the last three years alongwith foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(b) whether there is any proposal with Government to accelerate growth of exports during the Tenth Plan period; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASAN GOUDA R. PATIL): (a) As per Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistcs (DGCI&S) data, the value of textile exports during the last three years *i.e.* 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 have been as given below:

(*In US $ Million*)

	2000-01 (April-March)	2001-02 (April-March)	2002-03 (April-March)
Textile Exports	5087.0	4618.7	5031.5

(b) and (c) Government have been taking a number of measures to boost the textile exports and to accelerate the positive trend of export growth during the Tenth Plan period. Some of the important initiatives are:

(i) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of readymade garment from the Small Scale Industries (SSI) sector. It has also raised the SSI investment limit for knitted segment to Rs. 5 crores.

(ii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation

and upgradation of the sector.

(iii) Weaving processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%. Cost of machinery has also been reduced through Fiscal Policy measures. This further encourages modernisation.

(iv) With a view to encourage backward integration, the custom duty on shuttleless looms has been brought from 15% to 5%.

(v) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT) its six branches and Apparel Training & Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry especially apparel in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.

(vi) Facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get the textile products pre-tested for conforming to the requirements of importing countries.

(vii) The Government has launched a centrally sponsored scheme titled "Apparel Park for Export Scheme" for imparting focused thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres and to give fillip to exports.

(viii) For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centers, a scheme 'Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme' (TCIDS) has been lunched.

Projects under DHPY in Kerala

2531. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) How many projects under Deendayal Hathkargha Protsahan yojana have been sanctioned in Kerala, the district-wise details thereof;

(b) the amount released by Government for these projects so far, and whether all these projects have started functioning;

(c) whether any proposal requesting financial assistance has been received from the Government of Kerala to start fresh projects; and;